**Amendments to the Specification**

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0001]:

BACKGROUND

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0001]** The present invention relates to a method for electrochemically stripping components, in particular gas turbine components~~, according to the definition of the species set forth in claim 1~~. The present invention also relates to an electrode for electrochemically stripping components ~~according to the definition of the species set forth in claim 18~~.

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0005]:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0005]** ~~The~~ An object of the present invention is to devise a novel method for electrochemically stripping components, as well as a novel electrode for electrochemically stripping components. ~~This objective is achieved by a method as set forth in claim 1.~~ The present invention provides for an electrode to be used which is precisely adapted to a region of the component to be stripped in such a way that a gap between the region of the component to be stripped and the electrode is approximately the same size over the entire region to be stripped. The gap between the region of the component to be stripped and the electrode is preferably substantially constant over the entire region to be stripped and is between 10 μm and 1 mm in size.

Please delete paragraphs [0009] and [0010].

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0011]:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0011]** ~~Preferred embodiments of the present invention are derived from the dependent claims and from the following description.~~ The present invention is described in greater detail ~~in the following~~ with reference to exemplary embodiments and the drawings, without being limited thereto. ~~Reference is made to the drawing, whose:~~

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0012]** FIG. 1~~:~~ shows a gas turbine blade to be stripped in a schematized representation, and FIG. 2 schematically shows the electrode.

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0013]:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0016]** In order to electrochemically strip blade 10 in a specific section or region, one connects the same to a positive terminal of a voltage source or current source, while the electrode or counter electrode 14 is connected to a negative terminal of the voltage source or current source. The electrode, as well as at least the region of blade 10 to be stripped are submersed into a working medium—~~into~~ such as an electrolyte solution or an electrolyte.

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0024]** To produce the electrode, a moldable compound is used to make an impression of the region to be stripped, the compound preferably being subsequently cured. The compound ~~is~~ may be cured in air or in an oven. The moldable compound is plastically deformable and electrically conductive, so that the cured impression may be used as an electrode. The moldable compound may be made of a conductive powder and of a binding agent, wax being suited for use as a binding agent, and a brass powder, tungsten powder or copper powder as a conductive powder. When a sintered material is used as a moldable compound, a porous electrode is able to be produced very easily in the manner described above. When a soldering tin is used as a moldable compound, for example, the need for curing is eliminated.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0026]** ~~Accordingly, the~~ The method according to the present invention makes possible a selective and thus precise electrochemical stripping of components. Therefore, the method according to the present invention may also be described as a PECM (precise electrochemical machining) method. ~~Accordingly, the important~~ Important advantages of the method according to the present invention ~~are~~ include: Coatings are able to be removed whose composition is similar to the base material of the component to be stripped; coatings disposed on complex component geometries are able to be removed in a process that achieves contour accuracy; passivation of the component surface to be processed is avoided during the stripping process; a very uniform and thus rapid stripping of components is possible. Same gap size as defined herein includes gap sizes which are approximately the same.

Please amend the heading on top of page 7 as follows:

~~PATENT CLAIMS:~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: